

# Top of the Hill

Volume 8, Number 1

MBA Junior School

October 2002

## Laney 2002: Camp Rainy

by Worth Baker and Will Hannon (with contributions by assorted 7th Graders and Mr. Carter)

In late September, the MBA seventh grade class arrived at Camp Laney along with the wrath of Hurricane Isidore. Though it rained the **WHOLE** time, the fresh seventh graders had a blast! From Auri's wonderful experience on the Kamikaze high ropes course (check out Mr. Thurmond's website!) to Robbie Wykert's miraculous stand in battle ball, the seventh graders definitely had enough to keep busy. Everyone thought that the ropes course was the most fun, and besides being scared out of



*Sorry, Preston, your mommy can't help you now!*

their wits, they enjoyed bragging on themselves at dinner. Finally, because of the rain on the last day, they had to build bridges instead of the traditional boats. The best bridge, built by Andrew Snow, Austin Bennett, Jay Cole, and a host of others, held forty-five pounds, but the Adventure Guild's held some eighty-four pounds. Note: these guys had been to

*continued on  
page 11*

## Barbee's Best

### Top Ten List of Nashville's Best Eats

by Everitte Barbee, food critic

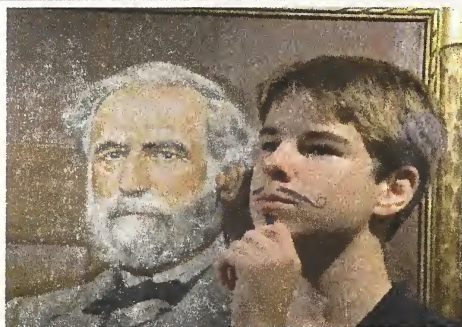
**10. Cancun Mexican Restaurant** - This restaurant is great when you need a Mexican fix. It's cheap, greasy, and fast, and the waiters are more or less easy to be around.

**9. Burger King** - This place has good food if you like burgers or fries. But don't ask them not to put something on your burger; they will become confused, drop your burger, and go to the bathroom.

**8. Asahi Sushi Bar** - Fish isn't the most

appetizing food when it's cooked, so you would think it would be rather scary when it isn't, but sushi is the best thing since calamari. I was asking the dude behind the bar what all the different kinds of fish were, and when I asked about the fresh water eel, he said, "Oh dat berry special food, you know. Oh, if you eat dat, you know, you have fun time tonight."

**7. Waffle House** - My grandfather used to go to Waffle House every morning for breakfast; he knew the people there so well that he would bring them



*Robert E. and Barbee discuss fine dining*

Christmas presents. In this house, you can hear yourself getting fatter as you devour the delicious omelettes and waffles.

**6. China Dragon** - As I walked in here the other day, I was greeted with "Nee how ma." This restaurant is a small

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# SPORTS

## The Running of the Crobies

### The Tales and names of the 2002 Junior School Cross Country Team

by Gentry Smith



"We know how to run, Mr Russell!"

This year many of the Junior Schoolers spent long, hard hours being Mr. Russell's slave runners. They were out to be a group of work horses sacrificing their bodies for the grueling sport of Cross Country. Many times they were lectured on the team's motto in many different ways, such as: *We are not finished until the last man finishes* or *We run as a team* or *Run to the last man*. Here are some nicknames that each or most of us picked up along the season

- Scott "Intense" Schwartz  
- Beau "When I laugh It sounds like I'm

crying" Evers  
- Zach "GO DAWGS!!!!" Richardson

- Jonathan "I'm really fast in the practices' warm-ups" Usry

- Alex "I like to sprint" Darsinos

- Patrick "Georgia will win the

national championship" Quinn

- Garrett "The Sick Mohican" Ramsey

- Weston "The Short Mohican" Iler

- Gentry "The Fat Mohican" Smith

- Chase "The Smart Mohican" Altenbern

- Adam "I have the best knees on this team" Baker

- Tyler "I slack off in practice and then get 3<sup>rd</sup> on the team in the meets" Ramsden

- Chet "Why do we run a mile in warm-ups?" Gormley

- Hayes "MVP" Arnold

- Stockton "I beat Hayes once" Beveridge

- Graham

"The Beast" Colbert

- Matt "Under-Armor Spandex" McCord

- Bill "I don't want to run" Eakin

- Markham "I can lick my elbow" Shofner

- Coach "Run to the last man" Russell

This season the team did really well. In the first meet, they took

second to USN with Hayes Arnold

taking fourth overall. In the second meet, they took second again, as only Woodland finished ahead of them; Hayes brought home a great second place finish. The



Hayes Arnold takes home the winnings

third meet was the most interesting. As all of the runners finished, they realized that the timers had no idea how to time the race, and no one figured out the runners' times. In this meet, Stockton Beveridge took eighth place overall. The team did know until the day before the final meet that they had tied for second with BA and had lost to USN once again. In the final meet MBA took fourth of seven, depressing some of the runners; Hayes Arnold ended up taking fifteenth in the city. All of the runners did a good job. The team would also like to thank Coach Russell for being a great coach this year.



Cross Country from left to right.....oh nevermind!



# FEATURES

## Remembering September 11th

By Gentry Smith

This September the one-year anniversary of the September 11<sup>th</sup> terrorist attacks passed us. That week Montgomery Bell was deeply saddened and very thoughtful. Senior Seth Cooper addressed the school in a commemorative ceremony in the Gambill Quadrangle on the morning of September 11, 2002. The day before, Mrs. Pettus's English classes wrote what they remembered and thought of the attacks a year later. Here are some of the things they put down:

-“My 9/11 response is that I am deeply saddened of how other countries view

Americans. Taking the lives of innocent people is a horrible thing, but what is worse: they are proud of what they did.”

-“I was in NYC at the end of summer 2001 and saw the Twin Towers from the Empire State Building, and it felt odd to see them missing the next time I visited New York.”

-“Terrorism in all forms must cease.”

-“Strength, Sorrow, and Pride”

-“There was no reason for this to happen. Thousands of lives devastated. Pray for the families of the dead.”

-“United We Stand”

-“Why? Why did it have to happen? I feel so sorry for the families of the lost ones. USA: We can make it!!”

-“I feel that 9/11 was a horrible thing.

The good thing is that it brought Americans together and brought national pride to our country.”

-“Hearing the National Anthem gives me chills now. I feel closer to my country and loved ones.”

-“Get Osama! God Bless America!!”

-“9/11- A day that will live in infamy!”

We are a better country now, and we will never forget what happened.



-“God Bless America”

-“I feel sorry for the people who died in the 9/11 attacks.”

## Scott Schwartz's Dancing:

### The 8<sup>th</sup> Wonder of the World

By Kyle Davis

At the September 14<sup>th</sup> MBA/Harpeth Hall Mixer, Scott Schwartz astounded everyone with his extraordinary dancing ability. While Scott is already famous for his well-practiced, well-executed Michael Jackson renditions, he proved that night that he could adapt to any style of music and that nothing could stand in his way. Pretty soon, girls were flocking around him, trying to imitate his clever moves, and everyone else was huddling around him, watching in awe. Scott's consistent, cool confidence has rewarded him well.



# FEATURES

## My Day as a Carnie

By Austin Branstetter

As the sun rose on Friday, September 13, its rays pierced my trailer windows and awoke me from my exhausted stupor. I pulled on my smarmy t-shirt and my ragged jeans and dragged myself to report to my supervisor. My day was filled with arduous labor as I worked beside my fellow carnies, carefully setting up the massive metal rides. We had barely finished

when people began arriving at MBA to attend the annual carnival. Our cruel supervisor then

demanded that we cheerfully serve countless carnival visitors at our stations. Though it was Friday the thirteenth, I was lucky enough to work that afternoon's shift with other carnies I've known for years - Billy Bob, Dewayne, and Lionel. It was a miserable afternoon of loading and unloading obnoxious kids and ungrateful adults who had no idea of the physical sacrifices we had made to ensure their safety. Somehow we carnies helped each other make it through.

exactly what my day as a carnie was like. I awoke on the morning of September 13 to the sound of my

bedside alarm, dressed myself in school

Okay, okay, so that's not

and receive instructions from the tricycles' owner

before the carnival began. I spent the afternoon with a great group of guys; some were old buddies and others became new friends. I worked with Barton Sanders, Austin Bennett, Derek Pitman, Josh Henley, and Vamsi Gaddipati. For two hours we used stopwatches to time little children (and

occasionally big ones) pedaling those trikes as fast as they could go. None of us MBA carnies actually risked life and



*Sink it, Taylor! Sink it!*



*Throwin' Tee Balls HEE HAW!*

clothes, and went to school all day before I ever began my duties as a carnie. The most strenuous work I performed before the carnival's start was solving problems in Mr. Thurmond's math class. My "task master" was my brother, Hunter, the major domo of the trike races, and our set-up consisted of placing orange cones on a strip of walkway in the Gambill Quad. We had plenty of time to put on our nifty new carnie t-shirts



*Daniel Van Red in the Face*

limb to guarantee our visitors a safe and pleasant ride, but the owner of the tricycles did tell us that we were to hurl our bodies between any wayward tricycles and the Ingram building so that no one crashed into anything but us carnies! I am pleased to report that no carnies sacrificed themselves for the cause and that a good time was had by all.



# FEATURES

## Interesting and Funny Things

By Gentry Smith  
Interesting Things

-Every day more money is printed for Monopoly than for the U.S. Treasury.  
-Coca-Cola was originally green.  
-It is impossible to lick your elbow.  
-The cost of raising a medium-sized dog to the age of eleven: \$6,400.  
-The average number of people airborne over the U.S. any given hour: 61,000.  
-Intelligent people have more zinc and copper in their hair.  
-Kyle Davis = the largest zinc and copper supply at MBA.  
-The world's youngest parents were 8 and 9 in China in 1910.  
-The youngest pope was eleven years old.  
-The first novel ever written on a typewriter: *Tom Sawyer*  
-The cable cars in San Francisco are the only mobile National Monuments.  
-111, 111, 111 x 111, 111, 111 = 12,345,678,987,654,321



*Markham - a freak of nature - does the impossible.*

-If you were to spell out numbers, you would have to go until one thousand to reach the letter "A."  
-What do bullet proof vests, fire escapes, windshield wipers, and laser printers all have in common? They were all invented by women.  
-There are more collect calls on Father's Day than any other day in the year.  
-What trivia fact about Mel Blanc (voice of Bugs Bunny) is the most ironic? He is allergic to carrots.

-I bet you tried to lick your elbow.

-If a pig loses its voice, is it disgruntled?  
-If love is blind, why is lingerie so popular?  
-When someone asks you, "A penny for your thoughts" and you put your two cents in . . . what happens to the other penny?  
-Why is a man who invests all your money called a broker?  
-Why do croutons come in an airtight package if they're stale bread any way?  
-Why are wise man and wise guy opposites?  
-Why isn't the number eleven pronounced "onety one"?  
-If Fed Ex and UPS were to merge, would they be called Fed UP?  
-Do Lipton Tea employees take coffee breaks?  
-What hair color do they put on a bald man's driver's license?  
-If you think about it, when people get older they start to read the Bible a lot more. Then you realize why: They're cramming for the final exam.  
-If it is true that we are here to help others, then what are others here for?

### Funny Things

-Isn't making a smoking section in a restaurant like making a peeing section in a pool?  
-Okay . . . so if the Jacksonville Jaguars are known as the "Jags," the Tampa Bay Buccaneers are known as the "Bucs," then what does that make the Tennessee Titans?  
-Why do we say something is out of whack? What's a whack?



*Kyle has an abundance of zinc and copper*

-No one ever says "It's only a game" when his or her team is winning.

# FEATURES

## Bad Ideas

By Everitte Barbee

During the thirteen years that I have been on this earth, I have done some things that are not very smart. But, being the nice person that I am, I will let you in on a few things that you would be better off not doing. Here is a list of things that I or friends of mine have done that were not too smart, and turned out badly. Here are the "don't's" and the "never's" of life:

- Never put a sparkler bomb in a toilet
- Never tell a girl that she has hairy arms.
- Don't shoot spitballs at the characters on the screen in a movie. They don't know you hitting them. It's a waste of time.
- Don't burn your binders at the end of the year. There is stuff you will use the next year.
- Don't tie a Barbie doll to a light; it will melt.
- Don't feed your neighbor's dog beer.
- Never go down your steps in a laundry basket.
- Don't eat lip gloss.
- ( g u y s ) : Don't put on make up if there is a girl nearby with a camera.
- Never light a firework at a football game.
- Don't kiss y o u r girlfriend (or girlfriends) in front of Mr. Thurmond.
- Don't ask Mrs. Qian questions that don't have answers.



*BURN, Barbie! BURN!!!*

## Tales of Guam: Shipwrecked

By Cullen Brown

Ms. Gulvas was teaching in Guam and, in the summer, got a job with a sailing company that had been contracted to do a scuba diving survey in the Atolls of Yap state in the western Pacific. As she tells it: "One night, when I was sleeping and the ship was anchored, the wind suddenly came up. I went up on

deck and saw that the wind was blowing us towards shore. The anchor caught on a big piece of coral right as the boat was starting to hit the rocky shore. I ran up to the front of the boat to turn the boat around using the wench, and while it was pitch black, the front end of the boat started coming around. Then a huge wave came, and in just a second, it picked up the 11,000-pound boat and threw it on the reef. Next thing I know I'm hanging from the front of the boat and I hear crunching in the back. I thought it was the captain, but he was

okay. Guys from the island came to help tie the boat off and it took a month for a freighter to come and take us back to Yap." During the month, Ms. Gulvas lived with the native people on the island and experienced living with no electricity and no running water.



*Now this is where I flew in my Death Star; murdered the world, and became President.*

## Crew Length Socks

by Chase Altenbern

This is a pair of crew length socks. Everyone should wear them to school. I have learned several times through experience that you should wear crew length socks to school. I am passing on the message because I do not want you to get in trouble with Mr. Thurmond.





# 7TH FOOTBALL

## SO CLOSE!!! And Yet So Far Mistakes and missed tackles lead to MBA's loss to St. Edwards

by Will Hastings

The seventh grade team fought valiantly against a bigger and better team, but in the end, all of their combined efforts were just not enough. MBA, a seventh grade team with widespread experience but no games under their belt, was up against a mostly eighth grade team entering their third game of the season. But even against the amazing odds, the 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Big Red somehow managed to hold their own.

St. Edwards' entirely eighth grade line was bigger and better than MBA's defense, and that menacing bulk of an offense proved that they were just as good as their size suggested. They held fast until the score was 7-0 at the end of the first quarter, but MBA replied with tremendous force. In the middle of the second quarter, middle linebacker Ben

Bartholomew intercepted a pass and ran it back for a touchdown. (Everyone enjoyed the little dive into the end zone, Ben.) It seemed that the tables were finally turning...

However, St. Edwards replied with a second touchdown. It looked as if the score would be 13-6 going into the half, until Nathan Wade returned a punt for another touchdown. It appeared MBA was going to win at the half, but the tables took a turn for the worse, and mistakes and missed tackles

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*Tailback Josh  
Henley takes one  
for the team as  
St. Edwards  
beats MBA 37-14.*

---

led to MBA's eventual loss.

The defensive line did enough, but many wish they could have done a bit better. Josh Henley and Austin Bennett provided some great pressure, and tackles Johnny Mishu, Clay Money, and Robert Rolfe got a handful of sacks and hits in the backfield.

Don't feel sorry for the Microbe Football;

they don't. The game was a learning experience, and the team will not repeat its mistakes. Instead of seeing the images of St. Edwards celebrating, they looked at the positive side of the game. They saw images of Nathan's punt return, Ben's interception, and Jim

Shaub (currently scratched because he has what he refers to as "half asthma, half flu, and...well...um... my doctor said I can't play, alright!") carrying water bottles out to the huddle celebrating our

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### *Restaraunt Reviews Cont.*

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kitchen between Obie's Pan Pizza and Vandyland, and here you can get a lot of food for a small price. My favorite dish is the sweet and sour chicken; it's ready in about five minutes with rice and a bowl of warm sweet and sour sauce.

**5. Kobe Steak House** - From the makers of Godzilla, this authentic Japanese restaurant cooks up a whole night of entertainment ranging anywhere from onion volcanoes to war in which your only weapons are your mind and your...shrimp? The chef creates your food right in front of your eyes, about five different courses, but very expensive.

**4. Loveless Café** - This small, dirty, run-down motel has down-home good food and "real sweet" waitresses. I can recall the five-word names they called me, such as "Sugar baby sweet dumpling boy" and "Cutie chicken pot pie sweetie." Their biscuits beat the Pillsbury Dough Boy's any day.

**3. P.F. Chang's** - The food here is really tasty if you want to wait three days in line, but what I find most interesting about this restaurant is that it Chinese food served by people who are not Chinese. I guess there must be some rule that you have to multiply the cost of your food by ten when you go from Chinese servers to non-Chinese servers, seeing as the food is more expensive than your

*continued on page 16*



# PHOTO CORNER



*"Mini Miller"*



*vs.*



*Miller*



*Scott Schwartz: Matthew Kimball wannabe*



*Tate the Irate*



*It's an allergic reaction.*



*"We want YOU to join the Big Red Army!"*



*Hangin' out with good ole Sam.*

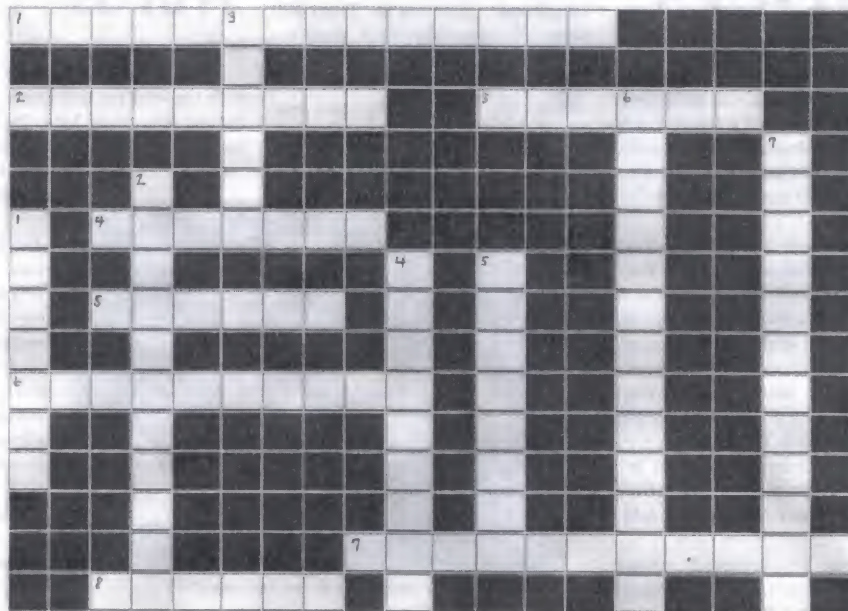
*(Photographs by Theron Spiegl)*



# CROSSWORD

## World's Worst Villains

by Everitte Barbee, Jonathan Usry, and Chase Altenbern



### ACROSS

1. Hello, Clarice
2. The price is wrong.
3. Doll with an attitude
4. They rule
5. I invented the internet.
6. Tuck that shirt in
7. Spiderman's enemy
8. Are those sharks with laser beams?

### DOWN

1. \_\_\_\_ the white
2. Heil
3. I love you, you love me
4. Tom Riddle
5. Rots in a cave (Tom Sawyer)
6. Mass murderer: helter-skelter
7. Murderer of puppies

# HUMOR

## BUSINESS SLIP-UPS

Compiled by Stockton Beveridge

Sometimes a business will get terribly confused about what it is trying to say. However, it is extremely enjoyable to find and laugh at their mistakes. Here are a couple worthy of newspaper fame:

Two signs from a Majorcan shop entrance: "English well talking"; "Here speaking American."

In the lobby of a Moscow hotel across from a Russian Orthodox monastery: "You are welcome to visit the cemetery where famous Russian and Soviet composers, artists, and writers are buried daily except Thursday."

In a hotel in Athens: "Visitors are expected to complain at the office between the hours of 9 and 11 A.M. daily."

At a Smyrna, TN McDonalds parking space: "For Drive-Through customers only"

When translated into Chinese, the Kentucky Fried Chicken slogan "finger-lickin' good" came out as "eat your fingers off."

In Italy, a campaign for Schweppes Tonic Water translated the name into Schweppes Toilet Water.

On the door of a Moscow hotel room: "If this is your first visit to the USSR, you are welcome to it."

On a package of American Airlines peanuts: "May contain traces of nuts."

In a Japanese hotel room: "Please to bathe inside the tub."

An American T-shirt maker in Miami printed shirts for the Spanish market which promoted the Pope's visit. Instead of the desired "I Saw the Pope" in Spanish, the shirts proclaimed "I Saw

the Potato."

Taiwan: the translation of the Pepsi slogan "Come alive with the Pepsi Generation" came out as "Pepsi will bring your ancestors back from the dead."

Denmark: in a Copenhagen airline ticket office: "We take your bags and send them in all directions."

In a Czechoslovakian tourist agency:



*So many words, so little time!*

"Take one of our horse-driven city tours - we guarantee no miscarriages."

Switzerland: in a Swiss mountain inn:

"Special today - no ice cream."

*"Dignity does not  
consist in  
possessing honors,  
but in deserving  
them."*

*—Aristotle*

## Fun with Words

by Theron Spiegel

Miller Sherill and I came up with the idea for this article one day before school in Mrs. Bourland's homeroom. We were going to look up

the weirdest words ever in the dictionary! It was genius. Anyway, here they are:

**rubbaboo-** a soup made by boiling pemmican in water with flour and other ingredients  
**xylol-chemistry-** a univalent radical, part of

xylene

**quinquagenarian-** a person 50 years old or between 50 and 60 (don't call a teacher this)

**quagga-** a zebra of southern Africa closely related to the dauw but having distinct stripes on its head, neck, and shoulder only. It became extinct in the 1870's.

**zoosporangial-** having to do with a zoosporangium

**zoosporangium-** botany- a receptacle or sporangium in which zoospores are produced

**We will be writing this article in every issue. Look forward to next issue when we will reveal the definition of a zoospore!**

To be continued....



# RAINY LANEY

## *Laney (cont.)*

Memorable moments from Mentone:

- "We ready. What?"
- dangling Auri
- Dr. Sorrows's demanding table inspections
- "We got breakfast!!!!"
- The attack of the orange fleece
- the adventure Guild director's wide-opening jaw and super-slow, over-enunciation
- walnut wars
- sweet butter and jelly dripp'n off a hot biscuit
- welts and wounds from rat-tail wars
- Club Dre
- wet, "stanky" clothes dripping from the rafters
- non-stop rain from Isidore
- Carlton dodging Coach Cooper's dodgeballs
- bandana do-rags
- rafter climbing
- reading wall graffiti
- strong winds and shaky platforms
- "RooSacRoo!"
- The doomed *El Maximino*
- watching *The Beast* hold 45 pounds of weights.



*Coop Doggy Dog, the belay master*



*Chase to Jay: Would you like a fresh glass of sparkling mineral water?*



*"Left, left, left right left!"*



*Auri: Can you let me down now?  
Mr Popovich: Nope.*

# JAMBALAYA

## The Smokin' Dance

by Patrick Quinn

On Saturday, September 14, the groovy M B A 8<sup>th</sup> graders hit the dance floor with the Harpeth Hall Hoties. The setting was perfect: One hundred boys and one hundred girls crammed into a small cafeteria! There were delicious foods, refreshing drinks, and...a FIRE! A fire? No, not really, but the fire alarm did go off!

The DJ still thinks it went off because "the gals were so hot!" Come on, we are in 8<sup>th</sup> grade, not 5<sup>th</sup>, and we

can't even get a DJ who won't make corny remarks (although I'll admit the ladies were pretty fine)! The MVP's of the dance were Scott Schwartz, Jordan Jenkins, and Kyle Davis. Scott Schwartz showed off his amazing dance skills; believe it or not, he was dancing better than that strange guy in the Spaghetti Supper Movie. Also, Jordan Jenkins wasn't so bad. Finally, who said that

Kyle only had the smarts? Well, I did, until I saw him dancing with Caitlin Ray. So, overall, our dance went pretty well! And yes, Mr. Thurmond, everyone did wear crew length socks.

## Special Olympics

by Gentry Smith

On September 28, 2002, the eighth grade class participated in Special Olympics Bowling. I bowled with Beau Evers, Everitte Barbee, and a girl

named Pacoda. In the lane next to us were Adam Speyer, Patrick Quinn, Cullen Brown, a guy named Adam,

very good. Pacoda beat Everitte and me both games. Unfortunately, Everitte did not bowl too well and is now known as the Gutter Ball King. In the second game, he bowled a twenty-three with sixteen of a possible twenty gutter balls. Way to go, Everitte! The little girl, Rachel, as I mentioned earlier, seemed to be very interested in Patrick Quinn and Miller Sherrill. She spent most of her time trying to kiss them rather than bowling. Beau entertained us as the fun began to die down later by running down the lane grabbing a ball that was stuck and throwing it at the pins. Finally, as we left, half of the people who attended excited themselves by buying "Jimmy Bob Teeth," an obvious knock-off of the ever-famous "Billy Bob's." We all went away with a very rewarding experience.

## 24: Seconds

By Kyle Davis

Those who tuned in and sat engrossed as the first season of 24 ticked by, will be excited to know that the second season is premiering on October 29, 2002. For those who didn't watch, 24 is a show about Jack Bauer, a government agent in the United States counter-terrorism unit. Last season, Jack and the CTU were faced with a possible assassination threat on an African-American presidential candidate, David Palmer. Jack soon learned that the threat did not just involve Palmer, that it also involved the rest of the Bauer family, including his daughter, Kim, and his wife, Teri. The conflict was resolved, although non-viewers will have to buy the DVD of the first season (now in stores) to see what happened. In the new season, Palmer is now president (so

*continued on page 20*



Jordan and Charlotte



A breach in the dresscode. Where is Mr. Thurmond?

and a very friendly little girl named Rachel. To our surprise, the Special Athletes with whom we bowled were



# MIXED BAG

## The Jimmonites

by Everitte Barbee

There is a new look in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade here at MBA. These poor, misunderstood children all have something in common. They all have the same role model, and no, Mr. Thurmond, sorry, but it's not you. It's a young, blond-haired 7<sup>th</sup> grade boy named Jimmy Anderson. He has blond hair, and frankly, I think his eyes change colors. Although I haven't quite figured out why or how, I'm pretty sure they change. I don't even know what colors they change to or from, but they do. Anyway, back to

the subject. I have come up with a name for this new era of 7<sup>th</sup>ers; they shall now be called the Jimmonites. You might think I'm crazy, but let's look at the facts. If the seventh graders are not on the golf team, they have blond hair, and they all have the same color eyes as Jimmy, but they all have different colored eyes. All of them take grammar, English, some kind of math, U.S. History, and IPS, just like Jimmy. They all wear ugly, beat-up hats, usually a faded green. They all wear khakis and collared shirts, and they all go to MBA. See! Now you understand that they are all the same, and my hypothesis is to be careful! Jimmonitis is a common, communicable disease that runs rampant among 7<sup>th</sup> graders, and the host, Jimmy Anderson, should probably be quarantined.



Jimmy Anderson

## Backpacks: A Heavy Dilemma

By Ivan Idea

One set of the MBA eighth grader's daily books in a backpack weighs about thirty-five pounds. That means that an eighth grader who wanted to carry all of his books without running the risk of future back injury would have to weigh about 230 pounds! If most eighth graders weigh about one hundred pounds, they should carry only fifteen percent of their weight (about fifteen pounds). A few ways to tell if your backpack is too heavy include: changed posture when wearing your backpack, struggling when putting on your backpack, pain when your backpack is on, and



Bennet Davidson and His Heavy Dilemma

tingling or numbness. If you carry your backpack in an awkward position by bending forwards, sideways, or backwards, it can lead to improper spinal alignment. This alignment can then lead to muscle and soft tissue fatigue, causing a sore back. Here are a few ways to help:

1. When putting on your backpack, bend your knees and use your legs to

lift it.

2. If you have the option to set it down on a table or chair, you can spare yourself the trouble of lifting up your backpack altogether.

3. Use all available straps to help distribute the weight evenly

throughout your body. Buckle those chest straps and hip belts -- that's why they are there.

4. Try to put your backpack on the middle of your back.

5. Most importantly, use your breaks to swap out books. It will definitely lighten your load.

Remember: If your backpack is still too heavy, it is your teacher's fault.

# SAWYER SKITS



*"Will a dead cat really cure warts?"*



*The graverobbers: Ben Satyshur, Cullen Brown, and Patrick Manning...*



*Matthew Kimball: murdered by a wheelbarrow*



*... and more graverobbers (Sam Moon, Nicholas Caroland, and James Michael)*



*Sorry, Bubbles, that's what happens when you fight crime after bedtime.*



*"On my honor as a gentleman, I swear to keep mum."*



# SPORTS (SORT OF)

## THE PLAYERS PLAY

... and we don't

**The amazing story of two fourth string football players**

by Travis Brannon (Miller just got in the way)

### MILLER BUNDY

Gender - Male

Age - 13

Height - 5'5"

Position - "Noseguard and Tackle"  
(Note the quotations)

### Career Highlights

- Brought Ben Daniel some water when he was injured
- Chased Ensworth running back for 60 yards when he ran for a touchdown
- Name is known by 3 coaches (there are 7)
- Supported Travis on his hand-clapping success

### DID YOU KNOW?

Miller once had a mullet.

### TRAVIS BRANNON

Gender - Male

Age - 13

Height - 5'4"

Position - Left out

### Career Highlights

- Once clapped continuously for one full half of a game
- Is 4<sup>th</sup> string waterboy (behind Preston, Charlie P., and a 7<sup>th</sup> grader)
- Drank 15 gallons of water at practice to protest his waterboy position
- Once picked up a football with one foot

### DID YOU KNOW?

Travis can strum some mad ukelele tunes.

This article is not written to inform, express, or enlighten. It is written just to let people know about the lives of two ostracized little boys with no football potential whatsoever. You will probably come out of reading this article with your I.Q. five points lower than it was when you started. Having said that, let's begin.

It all started one summer day at about 4 PM. About forty microbes lined up to receive jerseys, pads, and other equipment to finally play the long-awaited fall sport. About one month later the two boys, Miller and Travis, were sweating, running, diving, and tackling, just like all the other boys on the football field, just a lot worse.

That brings us to our story. Gameday: The two boys came out of class, pumped and ready to play. Then Travis said, "Hey...You wanna skip the game, go to my house, and play Diddy Kong Racing?" "Alright," said Miller, but when Travis called his mom to tell her to pick them up, she wasn't home. They

had a long day ahead of them.

On the bus ride, the two boys sat in the back. All the starters were reviewing plays and talking about

NCAA. The quarterbacks were quizzing the runningbacks about the plays to run, and the coaches were reviewing their playbooks. Miller and Travis were trading

Pokémon cards. When they got to the field, the quarterbacks threw to the receivers. The linemen did hitting drills, and the cornerbacks were doing foot-control drills. Miller and Travis were making daisy chains. What time is

it? Gametime! Miller and Travis ran to their positions and were ready for the play. Down...Set...Hut! Miller and Travis didn't move. They didn't have to. They were lounging on the bench. Travis decided to clap the entire game. He said that it was dedicated to all the kids who try hard in practice but just never get to play. By the half, he was too tired to go on and had to stop.

The scoreboard said, "2:25,

*continued on the next  
page*



Travis goes for 2 out-of 3



Travis: "Here is your dihydrogen monoxide, sir."

# ETC.

## Clubbers: Iron Men

by Nathan Sears

The golf team started off another season this fall with Coach Kelly. They had a great team this year, consisting of several golfers, including Tate McNeily, who impressed us all with his monstrous 300-yard drives, and Rob Campbell, with his amazing club-throwing abilities when he got mad. The team got off to a great start, winning all of their matches in the regular season. Daniel Leader shot the best score of the year, with a 33. The team also had some very bad scores at crucial moments. However, they still ended the season undefeated until they got to the HVAC tournament. The team did not do very well in this tournament and ended up placing third, but they did have Dylan Burroughs place 6<sup>th</sup> place overall out of close to 100 golfers.

They were going to go to Hooters if they had won the tournament, but unfortunately, they did not, so they did not have the pleasure of seeing the attractive waitresses!

---

***"Tate McNeily, with his monstrous 300-yard drives..."***

---



Nathan clubbit maxime

### *Business Slip-Ups (cont.)*

Warning to motorists in Tokyo: "When a passenger of the foot heave in sight, tootle the horn. Trumpet at him melodiously at first, but if he still obstacles your passage, then tootle him with vigor."

The American slogan for Salem cigarettes, "Salem - Feeling Free," got translated in the Japanese market into "When smoking Salem, you feel so refreshed that your mind seems to be free and empty."

Chicken-man Frank Perdue's slogan, "It takes a tough man to make a tender chicken", got terribly mangled in another Spanish translation. A photo of Perdue with one of his birds appeared on billboards all over Mexico with a caption that explained "It takes a hard man to make a chicken aroused."

from <http://www.bored.com>

### *Restaraunts cont. from page 7*

average Chinese restaurant.

**2. Krystal** - Excellent, tiny, greasy, little burger, and that's all I can say. Just a tip: you will want about twenty of them to fill

yourself up.

**1. Torino's** - My all-time favorite Italian restaurant. You dine in a very authentic atmosphere, complete with music and wine bottles hanging from the rafters. As soon as you get there, your waiter gives you a huge bowl full of Caesar salad topped with shredded cheese and with rolls sitting in olive oil, sprinkled with garlic. The entrees are about \$12 each, a reasonable price, and there is a lot of food. My favorite entrée is the Chicken Ravioli.

### *The Players Play (cont.)*

4<sup>th</sup> quarter. MBA - 15. Friendship Academy for Girls - 21." Coach Fuller yelled, "Men, get out there and show them how to play! It's wide open! Wide open! It's open so wide that I can drive my truck through it! WOOOO, what a day... What a day for football... GET OFF YOUR FEET! WOOOO! WIDE OPEN!" Then coach Henderson chimed in, "Yeah, what he said." Miller and Travis were standing right next to him, and they were swallowed up by the players rushing onto the field. Somehow they also ended up out there. They didn't know what to do. Miller coolly walked over to the huddle, pushed David out of the way and said, "Step back, son. Let daddy handle this." Travis lined up at fullback. Miller called the play... he didn't know any, so he made one up. He called the "Pass-run handoff thingy play." The Big Red were on their own ten yard line. The clock was running down. It said: "0:10." Miller lined up. He yelled, "DOWN...SET...HUT!" He took a three-step drop and lateraled it to Travis. Travis ran his fastest and hurdled over two huge linebackers. He lateraled it to Miller who stiff-armed a 300-pound, hairy ape-woman. He then tucked the ball under his shirt and yelled, "Booyah!" He jumped onto Ben's back, and Ben got scared. He didn't know what to do, so he jumped onto Travis's back. Then carrying over 370 pounds, Travis sprinted 70 yards to the endzone. "TOUCHDOWN!" The clock read "0:00." Travis looked at Miller and said, "Oh my God!" and Miller said, "I know...we got to play!"

The epic story of courage, brilliance, and drama is dedicated to all the players out there who try their hardest in practice but still never get to play. If you don't remember anything from this story at least remember these words: "YOU AND THE CAP'N MAKE IT HAP'N!"



# WELCOME



*Alec McGuffey*



*Prabodh Mishra*



*Will Bryant*



*Hayes Arnold*



*Rob Campbell*

## New Eighth Grade Students

# 8TH FOOTBALL

## Road to Redemption

By Jamie Berk

### Top Ten Fullerisms:

10. "Jamie, I'm gonna knock you out next time!"
9. "Seven o'clock is past my bedtime."
8. "Don't argue with me, Sam."
7. "Championship"
6. "Great day to play football"
5. "Great opportunity"
4. "Test of adversity"
3. "You have three pops, then four pops, then two more pops. How many pops is that?"
2. "Wide open"
1. "WHEW!!!!"

### Nicknames:

- Ben "At Least She Doesn't Look Like Treanor" Daniel
- William "I Always Fall Down for No Apparent Reason" Herbert
- Jamie "I Once Threw a Pass" Berk
- David "I Could've Sworn William Was Right There" Howe
- Treanor "I Started Last Year but Now I Play as Much as Travis and Miller" Granbery
- Wes "I Have to Put My Hand Over My Mouth to Keep From Making Fun of Jamie" McKeithan
- Hunter "I Swear I Can Bench as Much as Ben" Rogers
- Travis "Put Me In Coach, I'm Ready" Brannon



How does Howe do it?

- Tipper "I Wish Coach Figured Out How Good I Was at the Beginning of the Season" Austin
- William "Get Behind the Red Line" Emfinger
- Nick "No, My Jersey Isn't Red, It's Just My Darn Chin Again" Caroland
- James "Hey, I'm a Baron, You Know" Michael
- Sam "Shut Up, Sam" Little
- Stephen "Is There a Country Called Jewish?" Dolan (No, there is no "D" at the end of my last name.)
- Guy "Teddy Bear" McClure
- Prabodh "Welcome to India" Mishra
- Brian "I Was the Manager Last Year and Coach Never Seemed to Figure Out

That I Wasn't Anymore" Hughes  
 -Miller "Puff the Magic Dragon" Bundy  
 -Matt "Yeah, My Arms Broken, but Put Me Back in Anyway" Crook

- Carver "I Have a Belt With My Name on It" Morgan
- Coach Max "Steve Spurrier" Fuller
- Coach Matt "Sunflower" Golenor
- Coach Jason "There's a Secret Lair in the Shape of My Head" Silverman
- Coach Bill "Whadya Say, Red?" Nichol
- Coach Robin "I'm Kinda Down On That" Henderson

The 8th grade football team played an extremely tough year. After beating up on Holy Rosary, Woodland, Ensworth, Goodpasture, BMS, and BGA, the team finished its season in a strong manner by defeating the Dragons of Dickson County in the Big Red Bowl.

The Big Red finished at 7-1; our only loss came from the solid Brentwood Academy team. With wonderful leadership provided by QB David Howe, FB Ben Daniel, and FB Hunter Rogers, the future looks very promising. Here are some brief summaries of each game:

### Highlights:

Scrimmage vs. West Wilson: En route to West Wilson Middle School, somehow we managed to end up at Lebanon High School. While there, Stephen Dolan occupied his time by screaming out the window, "Oh my gosh, they're gonna kill us!" in reference to the shirtless high schoolers low-riding down to their knees. Apparently, Coach Nichol thought these seemed like good people to ask where the game was. Unfortunately, he did not receive any directions from his new friends. Coach Henderson finally found directions to West Wilson, and we arrived there without the linemen. It turned out that the linemen got lost (again) and arrived fifteen minutes later. The scrimmage itself was great practice, with highlights including Ben Daniel's plowing over the defense for a sixty-yard touchdown run. This play was spectacular; however, the play of the game would have to be when David Howe pitched the ball back to no one. Before the snap, he had yelled "Opposite" and then "Never mind," to everyone's confusion. It was hilarious, but at least it didn't happen in a real game.

Vs. Brentwood Middle: Before the game, the coaches warned us not to overlook the struggling Vikings, and we sure didn't. Their only points came off a sixty-yard kick return, while MBA was nothing less than an offensive powerhouse. Rob Phipps had an amazing game, with an interception on the Vikings' first drive and two long

*continued on the next page*



# ENTERTAINMENT

## 8th Football (cont.)

receptions, which scored touchdowns. The Big Red trounced BMS 34-6 in one of the biggest blowouts of the year.

Vs. BGA: In pre-game preparations, our main concern was their large and formidable running back. In the game, we proved him to be a non-factor, forcing him to fumble three times and recovering the ball twice. The main highlight of this game: Travis and Miller BOTH played. The game ended with a kneel-down inside BGA's 5-yard line, and the scoreboard read 34-0.

Vs. BA: We'll get 'em next year. 'Nuff said.

Big Red Bowl vs. Dickson County: Wow, there are too many great things to say about this game than I have space to write. The Big Red responded extremely well to its heartbreaking loss to Brentwood Academy the week before. As usual, Rob Phipps didn't fail to impress with his keen sense for the deep ball as he gained a touchdown and over one hundred yards receiving. In the fourth quarter, William Herbert secured the Big Red's triumph over Dickson with a brilliant rushing touchdown and the ensuing 2-point conversion. Oh yeah, and after the game, Coach Fuller hinted that he knew Travis's name, but unfortunately, Miller's was still just out of his grasp.

The 8th Grade Big Red truly did live up to the great reputation of 8th Grade football at MBA. In the years to come, this team promises to be one of the most successful in MBA history, due largely to effective coaching. Thanks again to all the coaches for allowing us to have an opportunity to win because we only want one thing, and Coach Fuller sums it up best: "Championship."

## Long-Awaited Releases

By Chase Altenbern

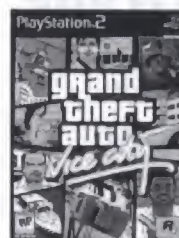
Yes, it's here! Well, almost. The long-awaited arrival of *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets* is scheduled to debut everywhere on November 15th. As many have noticed, the first movie

was a ~~monstrous~~ success, grossing \$93.1 million its first weekend. ~~Coment~~ with the release of the film is

the video game *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets* for Gamecube and Gameboy Advanced (comes out later for other systems). But I'm sure all of you are asking, wondering, and itching to know when the next *Harry Potter* book is coming out. My friends, I have your answer!



*Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*



June, but as J. K. Rowling could not make the deadline, the book might come out in summer 2003. Another film I'm sure we've all been wondering about is *The Two Towers*, the second film of the *The Lord of the Rings* trilogy; the film comes out December 18th (to a theater near you, of course). The first film was a colossal achievement and a great success; there is an unknown arrival date for the new DVD for the first movie, boasting a four-disc set and an uncut three-and-a-half-hour

version of the original movie. Coming out October 29 is the video game



*The Two Towers for PS2*

that many of us have been waiting for (and many of our parents have been dreading): *Grand Theft Auto: Vice City*. Even better than the prequel (*Grand Theft Auto 3*), the new game supposedly allows the player to form his own gang, drive motorcycles, and fly helicopters. I'm sure everyone is looking forward to the releases of these games and films!

The fifth year at Hogwarts, *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix*, was scheduled to come out this past

# MERRIMENT

## 7th Grade Mixer: GIRLS

.....and we bowled, too.

by Daniel Givens

The seventh graders' first get-together with the Harpeth Hall Honey Bears was a bowling mixer. Corey Metzman was the first big winner of the day, after spending \$7 on a two-dollar ring from one of those rigged games where the player grab a prize with a greased claw.

After almost winning a locket, then dropping it on the edge of the hollow box which chutes the prize to the winner, he tried many times to pick it up and finally went for a ring, which he eventually gave to Samantha Williams. Soon afterwards, Grant Gardener broke his foot with a bowling ball. Many rumors followed this event, and Grant said that Tyler Ramsden ran into him and dropped the ball on his foot. Tyler said, however, that Corey Metzman ran into him, causing Tyler to drop the ball on Grant, who now doesn't seem to mind at all. Also, Dr. Marro and Mrs. Steele were critiquing everyone's bowling technique, especially Jimmy Anderson's. The students were spending their money not only on nasty nachos but also on games, such as Area 51 and Deer Hunter USA. As the mixer came to a close, people were running

about, trying to jump into pictures with their groups. Other than bowling, the focus of the mixer became impressing the Harpeth Hall girls with idiotic nonsense, frivolous antics, and generally juvenile behavior.



Going for a turkey



James and John nullified.



Eric and Wakefield follow in their fathers' bowling shoes.

### 24 (cont.)

he obviously wasn't killed), and he calls Jack to help with a possible threat on the White House. To explain the name, there are 24 episodes, each representing an hour in Jack's day, and "events occur in real time."

Unfortunately, not all critics love this show. There are lots of different characters, all of whom seem unrelated at first but who gradually start to interact with each other, and for this reason, some critics have called 24 a "primetime soap opera." Others have

said that the show is too complicated, that it requires too much thought, and that if a person misses one episode, he or she will be lost. Both of these statements are false; first, the show is

not as complicated as critics say, and a person doesn't have to stress about missing an episode. If the person really wants to see the episode that he or she missed, Fox replays it once, and FX replays it twice. Second, 24 is not a soap opera because 24 has **good acting**. In conclusion,

if people don't watch 24, it will be cancelled, and the quality of television will decline dramatically.



The cast of 24



# MALCOLM'S MEN



## Congratulations to Homeroom Representatives

### Homeroom:

#### 8th Grade

Russ.....Gentry Smith  
 Pettus..... Theron Spiegl  
 Franks.....Ben Satyshur  
 Woolsey.....Travis Brannon  
 Whitfield.....Ben Daniel  
 Christeson.....Mark Piana  
 Spiegl.....Chase Altenbern

#### 7th Grade

Popovich..... Andy McLaughlin  
 Marro.....Jay Milam  
 Brown..... Ben Crownover  
 Ashworth.....Carl Grote  
 Wims.....Jimmy Anderson  
 Bourland.....Austin Branstetter

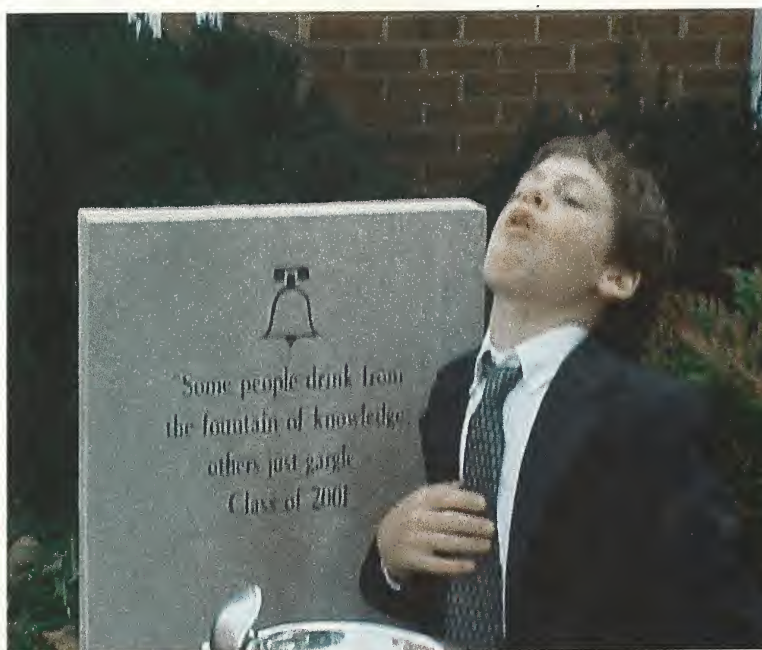
### Student Representative:

### Service Representative:

Charlie Plageman  
 Jordan Jenkins  
 Scott Schwartz  
 Jack Hudson  
 Adam Baker  
 Miller Bundy  
 Patrick Quinn

Graham Coburn  
 Brendan Mayhew  
 Worth Baker  
 John Ramsey  
 Daniel Van Jelgerhuis  
 Bennett Davidson

# BACK PAGE



## Top of the Hill *Staff*

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